United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit



APPELLANT'S BRIEF & APPENDIX

74-1789 B P/S

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE SECOND CIRCUIT

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff-Appellee,

-against-

Docket No. 74-1789

JOSEPH SCLAFANI,

Defendant-Appellant.

AND APPENDIX
BRIEF ON BEHALF OF APPELLANT

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PAGINATION AS IN ORIGINAL COPY

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UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE SECOND CIRCUIT

v

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff-Appellee,

Docket No. 74-1789

-against-

JOSEPH SCLAFANI,

Defendant-Appellant.

Y

BRIEF ON BEHALF OF APPELLANT

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

The appellant, JOSEPH SCLAFANI, appeals from a judgment of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York, rendered on June 7, 1974, convicting appellant of one count of perjury in violation of 18 U.S.C. Section 1623, and sentencing him to three years imprisonment pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 4208(a)(2).

This case was tried to a jury on April 1st and 2nd, 1974, Chief Judge Mishler presiding.

A notice of appeal was filed by direction of the Court and bail conditions were continued pending the determination of this appeal. MARTIN LIGHT was assigned by order of this Court on or about June 14, 1974,

STATUTE

Section 1623 False declarations before grand jury or court

- (a) Whoever under oath in any proceeding before or ancillary to any court or frand jury of the United States knowingly makes any false material declaration or makes or uses any other information, including any book, paper, document, record, recording, or other material, knowing the same to contain any false material declaration, shall be fined not more than \$10,000 or imprisoned not more than five years, or both.
- (b) This section is applicable whether the conduct occurred within or without the United States.
- (c) An indictment or information for violation of this section alleging that, in any proceedings before or ancillary to any court or grand jury of the United States, the defendant under oath has knowingly made two or more declarations, which are inconsistent to the degree that one of them is necessarily false, need specify which declaration is false if --
 - (1) each delcaration was material to the point in question, and
 - (2) each declaration was made within the period of the statute of limitations for the offense charged under this section.

In any prosecution under this section, the falsity of a declaration set forth in the indictment or information shall be established sufficient for conviction by proof that the defendant while under oath made irreconcilably contradictory declarations material to the point in question in any proceeding before or ancillary to any court or grand jury. It shall be a defense to an indictment or information made pursuant to the first sentence of this subsection that the defendant at the time he made each declaration believed the declaration was true.

(d) Where, in the same continuous court or grand jury proceeding in which a declaration is made, the person making the declaration admits such declaration to be false, such admission shall bar prosecution under this section if, at the time the admission is made, the declaration has not substantially affected the proceeding, or it has not become manifest that such falsity had been or will be exposed. (e) Proof beyond a reasonable doubt under this section is sufficient for conviction. It shall not be necessary that such proof be made by any particular number of witnesses or by documentary or other type of evidence.

FACTS

On April 11, 1974, the F.B.I. had staked out a three family house at 1564 Benson Avenue, Brooklyn, New York, looking for two State fugitives, PETER SALANARDI and NICK MUSSOLINO. The appellant, JOSEPH SCLAFANI, and there is no evidence to suggest that he knew either of the fugitives, was alleged to have been seen entering the building at 1:45 A.M. (A-18). He thereafter emerged at 10:40 A.M., emptied some garbage in a garbage can and drove away. He was driving an Oldsmobile Toronado that he had parked onthe street when he arrived (A-19). None of the agents watching the premises was able to say whether he came out of a particular apartment, but they all pinpointed the area as that being in the vicinity of the front doorway.

Later in the evening of that day, the stake-out was still going on, when two men were seen coming over a fence somewhere in the block behind the house under observation. The men apparently were the fugitives being sought, and while one man escaped, NICK MUSSOLINO was apprehended. This occurred at 7:00 P.M., some eight hours after appellant left the area (A20-21, A39-31).

*Numerical references prefaced with the letter "A" refer to to pages of the Appendix herein.

Numerical references not prefaced refer to Trial Minutes.

houses and there was not one shred of evidence to show, nor could one witness even say, that the two men had been in the apartment allegedly visited by SCLAFANI, or even that SCLAFANI knew either man (A-25-28, A-22-23,A33-37). In addition, SCLAFANI was so unimportant, that when he left the building, no one thought to stop him or question him as to the whereabouts of the two fugitives or whether he had seen them (A24-25). The agents had never seen SCLAFANI before (A22) so that if the F.B.I. was desirous of raiding the premises they could easily have accosted appellant when he was leaving.

At any rate, no one got around to questioning appellant until nine days later, when he voluntarily appeared at F.B.I. headquarters with his attorney, and he essentially said that he had lived in the apartment with his wife, but when they separated, he sublet it to someone named LOUISE MATTEO or Di MATEO, whom he had just met. This happened about two months before April 11th, and he thereafter never was in the apartment except twice for a few minutes to collect the rent. On those occasions he only waited in the doorway and thereafter gave the money to the landlord. He did not know either SALANARDI or MUSSOLINO (A32-38).

The fact that SCLAFANI moved out of the apartment and had apparently sublet it was later pretty much confirmed during the trial by the landlord, GIOVANNI RANDAZZO (174-176).

Four months went by and then appellant was summoned to appear before a Federal Grand Jury on August 8, 1973.

Appellant told the jury essentially the same story he had related to the F.B.I. in April (43-56), and denied knowing the two men or being in LOUISE's apartment on any occasion for more than a few minutes (All-12,Al5).

Appellant was recalled to the Grand Jury on September 26th, when he was asked the same questions in order to lay the groundwork for this perjury charge. In fact, the Grand Jury foreman testified that the September 26th Grand Jury had been made aware of the August 8th testimony, so that the Jury knew in advance what answers appellant was going to give (A5-6).

SCLAFANI again testified the same way on September 26th as he previously had, except, during the course of the questioning he repeatedly said that he was not sure, could not recall or really did not remember, but the examiner kept pressing him for a yes or no answer, apparently to set up the perjury charge (A8-9,A10). Thus, after saying he was not in the building on April 11th, to the best of his knowledge (A8), he later was asked the same question repeatedly until he said - no (A16-17). Finally, the question is asked which formed the basis of the within charge:

"Q. Did you ever stay in that building for a period exceeding one hour after you sublet the apartment?

A. No." (A17)

Significantly, the question made no reference to specifics such as the time, date or apartment number.

During the cross-examination of one F.B.I. agent regarding his ability to tell that it was appellant he saw enter the building, the agent, CHARLES AVAKIAN, related that ht had later seen a picture of appellant amongst a series of photos and that the pictures were an integral part of his recollection. (*60-81). Yet, the trial court, conducting its own voir dire, determined that the officer really was identifying appellant by his testimony in the courtroom rather than the viewing of the pictures contrary to the witness' own statement that the pictures really did form part of the identification basis (77A-79 80-81).

The Court also decided that the question that appellant allegedly answered falsely was material to the Grand Jury investigation, five months after the incident, as a matter of law (A39) and the only matter really left for the jury was whether the statement was false and whether appellant made it, knowing it was false (A40-41). Materiality, was thus not charged (A42-43).

POINT I

THE EVIDENCE BELOW WAS INSUFFICIENT
TO SUPPORT THE CONVICTION. THE ALLEGED
FALSEHOOD COULD NOT HAVE BEEN MATERIAL
TO THE GRAND JURY'S INQUIRY.

Appellant recognizes that in this Circuit, as well as almost every other Circuit, materiality in a perjury case has been viewed as a question of law. United States v. Stone 429 F.2d 138 (2nd Cir. 1970); Vitello v. United States, 425 F.2d 416 (9th Cir. 1970); United States v. Alo, 246 F.2d 29 (2nd Cir. 1957); United States v. Rivera, 448 F.2d 757 (7th Cir. 1971).

Yet, most of the positions of the different Circuits in this area can be traced back to Sinclair v. United States, 279 U.S. 263 (1929), where the rule received its main support in a holding which really was dicta but, regardless, dealt with a complicated question of the relevancy of certain highly technical evidence before a Senate Committee, and the whole subject of materiality was regarded as within the normal area of evidentiary relevancy and thus a question of law. One wonders whether if a criminal case were involved or if the forum was a Grand Jury room, the Supreme Court would not have rather let a petit jury decide the issue since here, the materiality question is the only real issue in the case, whereas in Sinclair, it was not very important.

One also wonders whether or not a recent Texas case really did not have the right idea. In Barnes v. United States, 378 F.2d 646, (certiorari denied 390 U.S. 972) (5th Cir. 1967). In that case, materiality was in fact submitted to the jury and although the Appellate Court said it should have been a matter for the Court in the first instance, the defendant was not prejudiced by the Court's action. It is hard to see the reason for having the Court decide what in most of these cases is the only real question to consider, yet on the other hand, afford a defendant the right to trial by jury.

In the case at bar, had the jury been given the issue, the result most certainly would have been different.

Appellant agrees with the position taken by the Government at the trial, that the question of materiality is to be determined at the time the testimony is given, rather than relating it back to the event it concerned.

<u>United States v. McFarland</u>, 371 F.2d, 701,703 (2nd Cir. 1966) certiorari denied 387 U.S. 906 (1967).

Appellant cannot see how on September 26th, it was in any material whether he spent more than five minutes in an apartment on April 11th. There was not one iota of proof that SCLAFANI knew either of the fugitives or that they ever were in the apartment at any time A7,A22-23, A25-28, A33

However, one fugitive was arrested in the evening of April 11th, but the other man got away. Five months later, SALANARDO, the escapee, was still being sought and the unimportance of appellant's testimony on September 26th is dramatically highlighted by the fact that supposedly the Grand Jury in calling appellant at that time was still looking for the fugitive, yet they did not ask appellant if he then knew where the man was or even if he knew him. The only thing asked was if appellant ever stayed in the building for more than an hour after he sublet the apartment (A17).

As trial counsel correctly pointed out, it is impossible to appreciate what that question had to do with the Grand Jury's inquiry in September, or even in August, when appellant first testified. In fact, once appellant supposedly left the building in the morning of April 11th, and no one in the F.B.I. thought of stopping him to investigate whether the two men were inside (A24-25), whether he ever spent an hour in that building was totally unimportant. That day, inthe street, questioning SCLAFANI might have been important, but to ask him five months later if he ever was in the apartment without relating it to whether he knew where the fugitives were, is pure nonsense. If appellant had told the Grand Jury that he was in the apartment, it is hard to see what good it would have done.

Appellant showed he had nothing to hide and that he did not knowingly lie to the Grand Jury. He could have relied on his constitutional rights, yet he spoke to the F.B.I. voluntarily, nine days after the 11th of April (A32-38), and came in to two Grand Jury sessions of his own accord, as well as one in Monticello, and answered all quesitons.

POINT II

THE PURPOSE FOR WHICH APPELLANT WAS CALLED BEFORE THE GRAND JURY ON SEPTEMBER 26th WAS NOT FOR LEGITIMATE INQUIRY BUT WAS MERELY TO ENTRAP HIM.

When appellant was recalled to the Grand Jury on September 26th, he had already been examined on August 8th and his August 8th testimony was made known to the Jury before appellant's second and fateful appearance (A5). The foreman thus testified that when SCLAFANI testified, the Jury knew what the general questioning would be, and, from his August 8th testimony, they also expected what answers would be forthcoming (A5-6). In fact, it even becomes clearer that the only purpose of the September 26th appearance was to entrap appellant and lay the groundwork for the perjury indictment, when appellant kept giving "not to the best of my knowledge" or "I don't think so", "I doubt it very much" answers, he was repeatedly pressed for a "yes" or "no" answer, obviously so he could be in-

dicted (Al6-17). When he gave the desired "no" answer, the questioning ceased.

In Brown v. United States, 245, F.2d 549 (8th Cir. 1957) where a Nebraska Grand Jury brought a witness before it only to extract answers with a view toward a perjury indictment and without any idea of obtaining evidence from him to indict anyone else for a substantive crime, the Jury acted beyond its power and the answers of the defendant, even if false, would not support a perjury prosecution.

The obvious similarity of purpose of bringing SCLAFANI before the Grand Jury in this case, coupled with the vagueness of the questions, makes it clear that the whole reason for calling appellant was to entrap him. Masina v. United States, 296 F.2d 871 (8th Cir. 1961)

CONCLUSION

THE JUDGMENT APPEALED FROM SHOULD BE REVERSED.

Respectfully submitted,

MARTIN LIGHT Attorney for Defendant-Appellant 66 Court Street Brooklyn, New York 11201

STANLEY M. MEYER Of Counsel

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DEFENDANT

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

V.

JOSEPH SCLAFANI

74 CR 29

INDICTMENT

18 USC § 1623

1-16-74

MISHLER, J

THE GRAND JURY CHARGES:

- 1. On or about the 26th day of September, 1973, in the Eastern District of New York, the defendant Joseph Sclafani, having duly taken an oath before a competent tribunal, that is, the Grand Jury of the United States of America, duly impaneled and sworn in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York, and inquiring for that District in a case then and there pending before the said Grand Jury in which a law of the United States authorized an oath to be administered, that he would testify truly, did wilfully and knowingly and contrary to said oath, state material matter which he did not believe to be true, that is to say:
- 2. At the time and place aforesaid the Grand Jury was conducting an investigation to determine whether there had been committed in the Eastern District of New York, violations of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1073 (flight to avoid prosecution) and other criminal statutes of the United States.
- 3. It was material to the aforesaid investigation to determine whether the defendant Joseph Sclafani was in the building located at 1564 Benson Avenue, Brooklyn, New York, on April 11, 1973.
- 4. At the time and place alleged in paragraph 1 herein, the defendant Joseph Sclafani appeared as a witness before the aforesaid Grand Jury, and then and there, being under oath as aforesaid, testified falsely before the Grand Jury with respect to the aforesaid material matter as follows:
- Q. Did you ever stay in that building for a period exceeding one hour after you sublet the apartment?

5. The aforesaid testimony of the defendant Joseph Sclafani, as he then and there well knew and believed, was not true in that the defendant Joseph Sclafani, after he sublet the apartment, was in the building located at 1564 Benson Avenue, Brooklyn, New York, for a period exceeding one hour on April 11, 1973.

[Title 18, United States Code, Section 1623].

A TRUE BILL

FOREMAN

EDWARD J. BOYD V UNITED STATES ATTORNEY different names.

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THE COURT: Next question, Mr. Light.

Q When for the first time were you told sir, that your Grand Jury was going to look into or hear evidence in relationship to these two gentlemen, Salanardi and Mussolino?

A The first time I personally heard of it was in late September; September 26th, if I recall.

- Q September 26, 1973?
- A If I recall the day correctly, yes sir.
- Q How many people testified?
- A During that day? I don't know the exact number of witnesses.
 - Q Was Mr. Sclafani the only one that testified ?
 - A Nc sir.
- 16 0 In reference to this investigation?
- 17 A No.
 - Q Were you told that Mr. Sclafani testified earlier in August?
- 20 A Yes.
- 21 Q Were you made aware of his prior testimony?
- A Yes sir.
 - Q So, you knew specifically, just what questions were going to be asked of him September 26th, 1973?
- A Not the specific questions but the general

tenor.

Q And you generally knew his answers from his testimony in August, 1973?

A Yes sir.

Q And I think you told us on a question by Mr. Del Grosso that Mr. Sclafani was asked if he knew Mr. Salanardi and you told us he answered yes?

A That's my recollection, yes.

Q Did you have an opportunity sir before testifying to look over the Grand Jury Minutes?

A No sir.

Did anyone tell you sir, that on September 26th,

1973, that if Mr. Sclafani is coming into the Grand Jury in

a few minutes and if he will testify that on April 11th, 1973 -
some five, six months earlier -- that if Mr. Sclafani would

say "Yes, I was in the apartment on April 11, 1973" -- did

anyone tell you that would help your investigation?

A We were looking for the whereabouts of Mr. Salanardi and nobody told us what would help or what would not help.

Mr. Salanardi had been in that apartment or not would be helpful to the investigation, in my mind.

September 26, 1973 you were concerned about the

2 A Yes, sir.

You told us earlier that you believed that Mr. Sclafani testified that he knew Peter Salanardi.

Will you please refresh your recollection, sir, with those Grand Jury minutes, and tell us if you were correct or incorrect.

(Pause)

A There is nothing in the minutes that say he knew Peter Salanardi.

Q Would that indicate, sir, that that question on September 26, 1973, was never asked of him?

A From the minutes, it would appear, yes.

THE COURT: I understand the lawyers have stipulated that this transcript, marked Defendant's Exhibit A is a correct and accurate transcript of the testimony of the defendant before the Grand Jury, September 26, 1973.

MR. LIGHT: The defendant so stipulates.

MR. DEL GROSSO: Yes, your Honor.

THE COURT: All right.

In fact, Mr. Kahn, would you please look at those Grand Jury minutes and tell us if there are any questions in those Grand Jury minutes, on September 26, 1973, asking the defendant Sclafani whether he knew either of those two people -

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whether he ever saw them.

MR. DEL GROSSO: I object to this, your Honor.

THE COURT: Please read the question.

(Record read by Reporter.)

THE COURT: Objection sustained.

The Grand Jury minutes are before the jury, and they can make that determination themselves.

Q Mr. Kahn, do you recall earlier I asked you whether you recalled hearing a question by Mr. Del Grosso, and an answer by Mr. Sclafani? I referred you to page 4:

"Question: Specifically, were you in that building on April 11, 1973?

"Answer: That building?

"Question: Right.

"Answer: Not to the best of my knowledge."

Does this refresh your recollection if that question was asked, and that was the reply?

A Yes, sir.

Q "Question: Did you go into that building at approximately 1:30 A.M. on April 11, 1973?

"Answer: I don't think so. I doubt it very much."

Q Refresh your recollection, sir?

A Yes.

a document. You may read any document to the jury.

a question from Mr. Del Grosso that you were trying to find

Do you recall on direct testimony you stated on

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the whereabouts of Peter Salanardi, indicted in a State proceeding, and that he was allegedly living in an apartment of his girl friend?

- Yes, sir. A
- What is his girl friend's name?
- Louise. A
- Louise what?
- I don't know the last name.
- During the course of this investigation, Mr. Kahn, did you hear testimony from witnesses that Mr. Salanardi's name was Louise?

MR. DEL C SSO: Objection.

THE COURT: The jury may be excused.

(Jury excused at 12:50 P.M.)

THE COURT: Tell me the purpose of this question, Mr. Light.

MR. LIGHT: On direct testimony he stated that Louise -- He didn't state the name -- but he stated that Peter Salanardi's girl friend was Louise.

There is going to be testimony that Mrs. Sclafani sublet the apartment to a girl named Louise, so I want to see if the Grand Jury had knowledge or testimony that this Louise was the same person, or it was suggestive thinking on behalf of Mr. Del Crosso in the course

1	approximate that?
2	"Answer: I don't know.
3	"Question: 115, 120? Did she have long hair
4	or short hair?
5	"Answer: Long hair.
6	"Question: Is she an Italian girl Italian-
7	American?
8	"Answer: Yes. I would say that.
9.	"Question. She was. She had dirty blonde hair?
10	"Answer: Yes."
11	On page 16:
12	"Question: How did you get back and forth to
13	work?
14	"Answer: I have a car.
15	"Question: What kind of car is that?
16	"Answer: '63 Oldsmobile.
17	"Question: '68 Oldsmobile?
18	"Answer: Yes."
19	Page 17:
20	"Question: What make?
21	"Answer: Toronado.
22	"Question: What color is the car?
23	"Answer: Black.
24	"Question: What is it; two-door, four-door?
25	" h:swer: Two-door.

"Question: Is it your car, sir? 1 "Answer: Yes. 2 "Question: Or is it your wife's car? 3 "Answer: My car. "Question: In your name? 5 "Answer: Right. 6 "Question: How long have you had the car? 7 "Answer: Five months. 8 "Question: So you had the time at the time you 9 were living at 1564 Benson? 10 "Answer: I don't remember. I think I did. 11 "Question: Did you have the car when you rented 12 the apartment, your former apartment, to Louise? 13 "Answer: I don't think so. No, I don't think I 14 did have the car. I think I got the car when I was liv-15 ing with my mother. I don't think I had the car when I 16 was living --17 "Question: Wait a minute. This is August 8, so 18 one month back would be July. Two months back would be 19 June. Three months back would be May. And four months 20 back would be April. So, you said, you say five months? 21 "Answer: I can show you the registration. 22 "Question: All right. Look at your registra-23 tion, and see how long ago. 24 "Answer: March 14. 25

1	"Question: March 14, 1973, is when you purchased
2	the car?
3	"Answer: That is what it is."
4	Still on page 18:
5	"Question: Now, is it possible that you rented
6	this apartment out in February and in March?
7	"Answer: I couldn't I doubt it, but it could
8	be possible.
9	"Question: Was it April? Is it closer to April
10	that you had rented that apartment out? Is there any-
11	thing that you can pinpoint the date?
12	"Answer: I have a receipt, one of the rent
13	receipts. I'm missing two.
14	"Question; But the last one is what?
15	"Answer: Well, I will tell you in a minute.
16	April.
17	"Question: Let me see. This is the last rent
18	receipt that you paid?
19	"Answer: No.
20	"Question: You paid this one?
21	"Answer: Well, the girl gave me the money.
22	"Question: The girl, Louise, gave you the money,
23	and you paid it the exact same day?
24	"Answer: Yes.
25	"Question: But you are sure that this is the last

1	one? April 1, 1973, that's the last time you paid for
2	the apartment?
3	"Answer: Yes.
4	"Question: And that was the last month that the
5	girl by the name of Louise had it?
6	"Answer: That's the last money she gave me for
7	the rent."
8	Page 22:
9	"Question: Do you know an individual by the
10	name of Peter Salanardi?
11	"Answer: No.
12	"Question: Do you know Nicholas Mussalino?
13	"Answer: No, sir.
14	"Question: Was Nicholas Mussalino arrested
15	near your apartment, former apartment, in April of 19732
16	"Answer: Not as far as I know.
17	"Question: Were you ever asked that question
18	before?
19	"Answer: Yes.
20	"Question: By who?
21	"Answer: By the Grand Jury in Monticello.
22	Page 23:
23	"Question: Did Mr. Mussalino ever use your apart-
24	ment?
25	"Answer: Not that I know of.

25

*Q But you were never in that building on April 11, 1973?

"A No, not to the best of my knowledge.

"Q April 11, 1973, is that the date Nicholas Mussolino was arrested?

"A April what?

"Q 11th, 1973. Do you remember that date?

"A No, I don't.

"Q Were you in that apartment, did you go to the apartment, to the building itself? Did you go to the building of 1564 Benson Avenue after you sublet the apartment?

"A (Witness nods head.) Well, I went to the building to pay the rent.

"Q But you were never in the apartment?

"A Not in the apartment. To the door.

»Q Did you ever stay in that building for a period exceeding one hour after you sublet the apartment?

"A No."

MR. DEL GROSSO: Nothing further.

THE COURT: You may read anything else from the exhibits that you wish or you may reserve for a time when your case is on, Mr. Light.

MR. LIGHT: I will reserve.

Avakian-direct

2	those two individuals?
3	A Yes sir, there was.
4	Q Where were you located sir?
5	A I was across the street from I think it was
6	15-64 Benson.
7	Q 1564 Benson and what are the other streets in
8	that area?
9	A The closest street to that would be 16th Avenu
10	on the corner.
11	Q There is also Bay 11th?
2	A Yes.
3	Q Now what time were you on duty sir?
4	A At that particular location, sir, I was on
15	duty from 1 to 3 in the morning.
16	Q At that time did you see anyone in this court-
17	room at that location?
18	A Yes sir.
19	Q Who was that?
20	A I saw the defendant, seated over there
21	(indicating), at approximately 1:45 in the morning, drive
22	up in a black Coronado; black Olds Coronado.
23	THE COURT: Let the record show the witness
24	pointed out the defendant, Joseph Sclafani.
5	Q What happened sir?

1		
	16	Askeland-direct
2	A	Yes, I was.
3	Q	Did you see anyone enter 1564 Benson Avenua
4	A	No one entered.
5	Q	Did you see anyone exit?
6	A	Yes, sir.
7	Q	Who was that, sir? Is it the individual in the
8		
9	courtroom	
10	A	YEs.
11	Q	Point him out for the jury, please.
12	A	Right here. (Indicating)
		THE COURT: The witness points out the
13	de	fendant, Joseph Sc lafani.
14	BY MR. DE	L GROSSO:
15	Q	Where did you see him exit?
16	A	The door, the lower apartment. I saw him come
17	out and e	empty some garbage in garbage cans and enter a
18	1968 or 1	969 black Olds Toronado.
19		THE COURT: What time of day was this?
20		THE WITNESS: This was at 10:48 a.m.
21		THE COURT: What kind of day was that?
22		THE WITNESS: As I remember, it was a very
23		
24		lear day, nice day. It was a very cold day, as I
25	re	emember it.
	Q	I show you this photograph marked as

1	18 Askeland-direct
2	A I could just see the garbage cans out the sid
3	vents of the truck, located approximately where they are
4	located now.
5	Q After he emptied the garbage, what did he do?
6	A He then proceeded down the street, and there
7	
	was a car, his car or the car in question, the black Olds
8	Toronado, which was parked a little bit ahead of this one,
9	I believe.
10	Q He left the area?
11	A He went to the end of the street where there
12	was a white Cadilla c that was also stopped.
13	One of the individuals got out of this white
14	Cadilla c and got into the said Toronado.
15	Q Now, who did you I presume you relieved an
16	individual, a fellow agent when you came on duty?
17	A Yes, I relieved Special Agent Anderson.
18	Q You left at what time?
19	A I left at 11 a.m. that same morning. I was
20	in there for three hours.
21	Q Was there an arrest made that same, day, sir?
22	A Yes.
23	Q Of whom?

Nicholas Mussolino.

Approximately what time, do you know?

Askeland-direct

	ADACZUM UZZCC			
A	I really couldn't say. I believe it was			
after 7 p.m. that night. I wasn't present.				
	MR. DEL GROSSO: No further questions, your			
Honor				

THE COURT: Mr. Light?

CROSS-EXAMINATION

BY MR. LIGHT:

Q Agent Askeland, you pointed to the photograph a moment ago. Could you show us where the defendant's black Toronado was parked?

A Well, it was parked -- it's hard to tell from this photograph because it's an angle, but I was parked here (indicating.)

THE COURT: You mean to the right?

THE WITNESS: I could point it out better on the board.

THE COURT: Do it on the photograph first.

THE WITNESS: I would say that the Toronado
was about here, back over here (indicating)

THE COURT: Would you superimpose an oblong
on the car that is parked and show where the Toronado
would be?

THE WITNESS: It was headed the same way, approximately here. (Indicating)

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A He crossed both driveways, out into the street, walked past the rear end of his car, opened his door, got in and drove away.

Q Was that the first time that you ever saw Joseph Sclafani?

A Yes, it was.

O When was the next time that you ever saw Joseph Sclafani in person?

A The next time -- I can't remember the date, but

I did see him one other time in Brooklyn.

Q And then again today?

A Again today. I don't believe I saw him -- I can't remember if I saw him --

THE COURT: Just answer the question.

The first time you saw him was about the morning of April 12?

THE WITNESS: April 11.

THE COURT: April 11 -- and then you saw him once after that, and today?

THE WITNESS: Yes.

Q Did you ever see those two fugitives you were looking for, Mussalino or Salanardi?

A No.

Q In that apartment?

question,

1	6 Askland - cross 124
2	A No.
3	Ω Ever see them leave that apartment?
4	A No, I didn't.
5	Q You never saw Mussalino come out of that apart-
6	ment; correct?
7	A No, I didn't.
8	Q I'll ask you this question
9	MR. LIGHT: Withdrawn.
0	Ω Do you recall testifying, Agent Askland, at the
1	Grand Jury on August 22, 1973?
2	A Yes, sir.
3	Q Did you have an opportunity to see your Grand
4	Jury minutes before your testimony?
5	A No, I haven't.
6	Q You have never seen it?
7	A No, I haven't.
в	O Reading from page 4, were you asked this question
9	and did you give this answer:
	"Question: Did you observe anyone?
,	"Answer: Well, I observed several people on the
,	block, but the only one of interest came out of that residence,

and at that time, it was just a white male, and this description

that came out of that residence later on that evening -- Later

on that evening Mussalino was arrested, he came out of that

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Rafferty-cross

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You didn't anticipate that car would come around the corner or anything?

A No. We had reason to believe that our fugitives were at that location and we would have stopped them then and there.

O Did'you have an arrest warrant for those two people?

A Yes.

O Did you ever attempt to go inside and arrest them?

A No.

O Did anyone stop Sclafoni when he came out and question him?

A No.

O Did anyone say, "Is Mussolino and Salanardi in that apartment"?

A No.

O No one stopped him or questioned him?

A No.

O Isn't it true, sir, that the first time any agents questioned Mr. Sclafoni was possibly a week or two later when he was asked to come up to the FBI office with his attorney?

A Because we couldn't find Mr. Sclafoni.

2	1		Rafferty-cross	150
	2	O W	nen did you look for him?	
	3		not "we" not "me"	
	4		on't tell us what anyone else did.	
	5			
	6		d you ever look for him?	
	7	. A No	o, I don't believe I did.	
		O Di	d anyone ever see any of those two	fugitives
	8	leave this apart	ment at 1564 Benson Avenue?	
	9	λ As	far as what other agents saw?	
	10	O Ye	8.	
	11	A I	can't really answer that.	
	12	0 Yo	u are the case agent?	
	13	AI	am now. I wasn't then.	
	14	0 16	any agent saw those two fugitives	leave or
	15		ou know about it?	
	16	A We	11, the two fugitives	
	17	O Th	at's not the question.	
	18		they were ever seen leaving or enter	ering the
	19		you know about it?	
	20	λ On	e of the two fugitives was arrested	coming
	21	out of the back		
	22	O Yo	u told us there were a few wire fend	ces.
	23	A Ye		
* ;	24	O And	d there are how many houses between	1564 and
:	25	15th Avenue?		

describe a house. To me a house is one building.

Where is 1564 in that photograph?

Λ Just off center.

> THE COURT: Put an arrow and put "1564 Benson." (Witness complied.)

THE COURT: You have circled it in green.

THE WITNESS: The lighter colored brick.

You see one entrance to that building from the stairs going up -- now the walk-in -- you see one flight of stairs, one entering into that building?

> MR. DEL GROSSO: Objection. Let the witness answer.

> > THE COURT: I will allow it.

I see one entrance at the top of the stairs.

And do you see, looking to your left, another 0 flight of stairs apparently going into another building?

Yes.

And another flight of stairs to the left going into the same building?

> They are all going into the same building. V

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1 Rafferty-cross 2 I don't know what you call them. 3 THE COURT: They are all attached houses, separately occupied. Each entrance is a different 4 5 house. 6 THE WITNESS: Yes. 7 THE COURT: And you originally thought that the entire row of houses was one building? 8 9 THE WITNESS: I'm still not sure that they are not. There are individual families in the three 10 squashed together. 11 12 THE COURT: Are there individual fences in the back that would be correlated to the front steps up? 13 THE WITNESS: Yes. The two wire fences break 14 into three lots. 15 THE COURT: That's what Mr. Light is talking about. 17 18 would be separated by those wire fences? 19 A I assume so. 20

In other words, the property line in the back

And then there comes a time -- you said there was one wire fence and another --

> And then the white fence. A

The white wooden fence?

A Yes.

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O And 1564 is about how many feet in from 16th

Avenue? Do you have any idea?

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As I said before I'm not very good at yardage.

THE COURT: Point out the distance with

reference to where you're sitting, with reference to

Explain to the jury the circumstances, please.

picket fence and then just approximately four feet in front

As indicated by the photograph, there is a white

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1	1 Fitzgeralu-direct 164
2	Q Does this photograph accurately reflect the area
3	as it was April 11, 1973?
4	A Yes. I would consider this a fair and
5	accurate representation of the area as it existed at that
6	time.
7	Q Was this white picket fence there at that time?
8	A Yes.
9	MR. DEL GROSSO: I offer it.
10	MR. LIGHT: No objection.
11	THE CLERK: Government's Exhibit 10 previously
12	marked for Identification now received in evidence.
13	(So marked.)
14	Q At approximately 7:15 p.m. on April 11, 1973,
15	did you have occasion to make an arrest, sir?
16	A The more accurate time, I would say, to the
17	best of my recollection, is 7:30 as opposed to 7:15, but in
18	that vicinity.
19	Q You made an arrest?
20	A Yes.
21	Q Of whom?
22	A Nicholas Mussolino.

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1	Pitzgerald-direct
2	of the fence is a concrete brick wall approximately two feet
3	high.
4	At 7:30 we observed two individuals, you might say,
5	vaulting this lower wall. They didn't come out this gate
6	but over here, closer to the phone pole.
7	Q So you mark on there where they came out.
8	THE COURT: With an X, please, in green crayon
9	THE WITNESS: Yes.
10	(Witness complies.)
11	Q Could you mark where your car was located, sir.
2	THE COURT: With a brown pencil; oblong shape.
13	THE WITNESS: Directly opposite the green "X".
4	THE COURT: Did you mark it in an oblong shape
15	THE WITNESS: I didn't.
6	(Witness complies.)
17	THE COURT: Put your initials in the oblong
8	so we'll know you made it.
9	(Witness complies.)
20	Q Special Agent Fitzgerald, did you capture any
1	of the individuals?
2	A Yes.
3	Q Who?

Nicholas Mussolino.

You arrested him, sir?

1	3	Fitzgerald-direct 166
2	A	Yes.
3	Q	Was the other individual captured?
4	A	No.
5	Q	Was he identified?
6	А	Yes.
7	Q	Did you identify him, sir?
8	A	Yes.
9	Q	Who was that?
10	A	Peter Salanardi.
11	Q	How did you identify him, sir?
12	A	Based on the photograph which I thought was
13	quite similar	to the individual we observed. There was no
14	doubt in my m	ind that was the same person.
15	Q	That yard is behind Benson Avenue?
16	A	That yard is behind Benson Avenue; correct.
17	That would be	the rear of the building that we were observing
18	Q	How was the visibility at that time?
19	A	The visibility I would consider excellent for
20	that time of	night because directly adjacent to that white
21	picket fence	was a telephone pole with a number of street
22	lights.	
23	Q	You had no difficulty in viewing that area?
24	A	No.

No difficulty in viewing the suspect?

		7
1	Werlein-direct	216
2	Q do you know the defendant?	
3	A Yes.	
4	Q Joseph Sclafani?	
5	A Yes.	
6	Q Were you involved in an investigation	of
7	Mr. Sclafani?	
8	A I was.	
9	Q At any time did you question Mr. Scla	fani?
10	A Yes.	
11	Q When was this sir?	
12	A It was on April 16 of 1973.	
13	Q Where did this questioning take place	?
14	A Ittook place in the FBI office here i	n New
15	York on East 69th Street.	
16	Q Who was present?	
17	A Joseph Sclafani was present, his atto	rney was
18	present, Martin Light; I was present, Special Agent	Kevin
19	O'Brien, and oh, I think John McGinley was in for p	art of
20	the time.	,
21	Q When you say "Mr. Light," is that the	same
22	Mr. Light at the table?	

A That's right.

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Q Was this an investigation of Mr. Sclafani or an investigation of other individuals?

Werlein- direct

	Wolfer direct
2	A This was in connection with an investigation
3	of other individuals.
4	O Who were those individuals, sir?
5	A Peter Salanardi and Nicholas Mussolino.
6	Q This was a federal investigation of what?
7	A Unlawful flight to avoid prosecution case.
8	Q You did question Mr. Sclafani. What did you
9	ask him?
10	A Well, we were concerned as regarding his
11	apartment in Brooklyn and whether or not he had knowledge
12	of the fact that these individuals were staying in his
13	apartment.
14	Q You mean Salanardi and Mussolino?
15	A Yes.
16	Q What did Mr. Sclafani say?
17	A He stated that he did not know Salarnardi
18	and Mussolino and that he did not know that they had ever
19	stayed in the apartment.
20	Q His apartment?
21	A Yes.
22	Q Where was the apartment located?
23	A 1654 Benson Avenue.
24	Q Is that an apartment house or what?
25	A I don't know what you call it. It's more of

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a connection of apartments in a one structure building. Mr. Sclafani's apartment was the bottom, lower level apartment.

When you asked him whether or not he knew Peter Salanardi and Nicholas Mussolino, did you show him pictures?

> A Yes.

0 He could not identify them?

A He could not identify them.

0 Were there any other questions you asked?

Yes sir. We asked if he had been living A in that apartment recently and he replied he had not been. He said he had been living with his parents on 86th Street for the past month and a half or two months prior to the inquiry.

> And the inquiry was April 16, 1973? 0

Correct.

So, he moved out of his apartment approximately a month and a half prior to that interview?

> A Correct.

O Did he say who had the apartment?

He said that he had rented this apartment out to a girl whom he had met in Brooklyn, by the name of Louise.

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Werlein-direct

2	O Did he know her last name?
3	A He said he didn't know the exact last name.
4	He said it sounded like Mateo or DeMateo, something like
5	that.
6	Q Did he state whether or not this Louise was
7	a relative?
8	A He didn't state but I assume that she was
9	not since he met her at this bar in Brooklyn for the fist
10	time.
11	Q Did he state whether or not Louise was living
12	there alone?
13	A I don't think he mentioned that but I assumed
14	from his conversation that he only rented the apartment to
15	her
16	THE COURT: Read that back, please.
17	(Record read.)
18	THE COURT: Strike out "I assume" and the
19	jury will disregard it.
20	O Did you ask Mr. Sclafani if he had been back
21	to his apartment since he sub-let it?
22	A Yes sir.
23	O What was his answer?
24	A He said that he had gone back there on April
5	3rd or April 4th to collect rent from this Louise.

1	6		Werlein-direct
2		Q	Did he go into the apartment?
3		A	He stated that he went up to the door,
4	collect	ed the	rent but he did not go in.
5		Q	What did he do then?
6		A	He left.
7		Ω	Did he himself pay the rent to the landlord?
8		A	You mean that rent he collected from Louise?
9		Ω	Yes.
10		A	We did not ask him that question.
11			MR. DEL GROSSO: Nothing further.
12			May I have this marked? Mr. Light already
13	1	has it.	
14			THE CLERK: Four page document marked
15		governi	ment's exhibit 17 for identification.
16			(So marked.)
17			THE COURT: Mr. Light?
18	CROSS-E	XAMINA!	rion
19	BY MR.	LIGHT:	
20		Q	Mr. Werlein, did you just tell us
21			MR. LIGHT: Withdrawn.
22		Q	At the time that you were questioning Mr.
23	Sclafan	i, wer	e you taking notes?
24		A	Yes sir.
25	22 .	Q	Did you have an opportunity to read your note:

rent?

Yes sir.

prior to testifying?

Q And you just told us, is it not so, that the defendant told you or he did not say that he paid the

A Repeat the question?

Q Did you just state to Mr. Del Grosso, sir, on a question asked you "What did Mr. Sclafani do after he collected the rent, did he pay it to the landlord" I think your answer was "He didn't say what he did with it." Is that not so?

A To my best recollection whether he turned over that particular rent to the landlord, I can't remember.

Q I show you government's exhibit number 17 sir. Is that a typewritten transcript of your notes taken April 16, 1973?

A It is.

Q I draw your attention to the last part of the paragraph?

A Umm hmm.

Q Does that refresh your recollection?

A Yes sir.

Q Do you want to correct your answer that the defendant did in fact tell you that when he collected the

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Werlein- cross

money	from	Louise	he	in	turn	paid	it	to	his	landlord,
Randa	zzo?									

A Correct.

Q You told us a little while ago -- at that time, he wasn't a defendant, when you spoke to Mr. Sclafani?

A No.

Q He came in voluntarily with his attorney?

A Correct.

Q At that time did you show him pictures?

A Yes.

Q And he told you that he never saw those two fellows, Mussolino and Salanardi, and he told you he doesn't know them?

A Correct.

Q Sir, did you ever have any investigation reports from the FBI or did any brother agent ever tell you that anyone saw Mr. Sclafani with those two lugitives?

A Mrs.?

Q Mr. Sclafani -- with those two people?

A From our surveillance -- no, not "with"; that's right.

Q You also told us, sir, a few moments ago on a question from Mr. Del Grosso that Mr. Sclafani told you that he met Louise in a bar?

lie. The alternative was not to commit perjury.

Now, the most confusing part of the determination of the Court that the statement was material, is that the charge offered by the Government would submit materiality to the jury as an element of the crime.

An oath and a proceeding before -- I won't say ancillary to the Court -- it was an oath in a proceeding before the Grand Jury -- to a material false declaration, knowingly made.

Do you agree materiality is a matter for the Court?

MR. LIGHT: It's what the law is, not what I say.

THE COURT: There's Bronston and U.S. v.

Pollack. I have gone through the cases and that's what it clearly says.

Mr. Del Grosso, you quote Judge Judd in United States against Pinto where he says the same thing, and I spoke with Judge Judd and I have the source of the charge for the proper situation — that it need not be in the essential elements once you decide it's a matter for the Court. Maybe you put that in your brief.

Is there any question about the cases? I can

THE COURT: What page?

MR. LIGHT: Page 11.

THE COURT: Yes.

Government's requests to charge and ask your Honor to state that as to the third element, intent, the statute, you will recall, defines it as a knowingly made false statement and that they have to determine that not only was the statement made and it was material and under oath, but that it was false when made.

THE COURT: I say, that seems inconsistent with the law, and I spoke to Judge Judd and he advised me that he gave it to the jury, but it was not a fact question for the jury.

The other judges of this court indicate that what they do is charge that the essential elements of the crime are finding it was a material false statement, but they say to the jury, "That's withdrawn from your consideration. The Court already found that the statement was material to the matter pending before the jury."

I'll state it that way.

MR. LIGHT: It's a sure conviction that way.

THE COURT: Well, I thought that would be a

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the law, so you are the sole judge of the facts. You will find, as I charge you later, that you will determine what actually happened on April 11, 1973. You will determine, among other issues, whether this defendant was in the ground floor or street floor apartment of 1564 Benson Avenue on April 11 and you and you alone will determine whether the statement or answer he gave to the question "Did you ever stay in that building for a period exceeding one hour after you sub-let the apartment" was false and if, when the defendant made that statement to the Grand Jury on September 26, 1973, he was aware that it was false and knowing that it was false, nevertheless, answered it with a "No."

I have no opinion as to the outcome of this case or what the verdict should be. I leave that solely in your hands. I am interested, vitally interested in seeing that both sides get a fair trial; that you understand the obligations of the Government and the rights of the defendant in the trial; that you be fair in the treatment of the litigants in this litigation.

In every criminal trial the defendant is

The next question is, did the defendant answer "No" to the question, "Did you ever stay in that building for a period exceeding one hour after you sub-let the apartment" and the subsidiary question to that is, was that false? In making the determination as to whether that was false, you will have to go to the testimony of all the agents who conducted surveillance of 1564 Benson Avenue on April 11 and you determine whether the Government established beyond a reasonable doubt that he was in that apartment on the first floor for more than one hour. If you find that the Government did, then it will establish the second element.

The third element is that at the time the defendant made the statement under oath he knew it was false. You will recall the statute refers to one who knowingly makes any false material declaration. So, criminal intent is the important element. The Government must in effect, prove beyond a reasonable doubt that when he made that statement he believed it to be false; that he was aware that he was giving a false answer; that it was not through some misunderstanding,

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fatigue, inadvertence of any other fact that would bear on his making it knowingly and voluntarily, being aware of what he was saying and believing at that time that what he was saying was false.

The Government must prove all those essential elements of the crime by proof beyond a reasonable doubt. If the Government fails in any respect to establish any one of the three elements, you must find the defendant not guilty. On the other hand, if the Government has established all the elements, the three elements that I have just defined, beyond a reasonable doubt, then you must find the defendant guilty.

During your deliberations you may have occasion to ask the Court for testimony or exhibits. Just write a note, through your Foreman, Mr. Stanton. It will be given to the marshal and I will get it.

Now, these minutes have not been transcribed so it means that our reporter, Miss Ginsberg, will have to search for the testimony you request and it may take a little time.

SIAIE OF	NEW YORK, COUNTY OF KIN	GS ss.:	The state of the s
	IRENE N. PHILLI		and says: deponent is not a party to the action,
is over 18	years of age and resides at Br		
01	Midavit $O_{ m Dn}$ August 8 Service $O_{ m Upon}$ David G. Tra		BRIEF ON BEHALF OF APPELLANT eney, Eastern District of
Box	attorney(s) for Brooklyn, Ne	w York the address d	ew York, 225 Cadman Plaza East, designated by said attorney(s) for that purpose
Applicable	by depositing a true copy depository under the exclu	of same enclosed in a post-paid properly	addressed wrapper, in — a post office — official es Postal Service within the State of New York.
- C	ffidavit On	19 at	
-	Personal deponent served the within	upon	
			the
		herein, by delivering a true copy there	
	person so served to be the p	erson mentioned and described in said pap	pers as the therein.
Sworn to	before me on August		The name signed must be printed beneath
1	the		IRENE N. PHILLIPS
/	NLEY M. MEYER		
STARY P	IRLIC. State of New York		
	4a 30-2684033		
Ountif	ed in Nassau County Expires March 30, 1975		

